

**Amendment to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph 0081 in the specification with the following paragraph:

[0081] The amount of neuraminidase activity in influenza VLP-containing sucrose gradient fractions was determined by the neuraminidase assay. In this assay the NA (an enzyme) acted on the substrate (fetuin) and released sialic acid. Arsenite reagent was added to stop enzyme activity. The amount of sialic acid liberated was determined chemically with the thiobarbituric acid that produced a pink color in proportion to free sialic acid. The amount of color (chromophor) was measured in a spectrophotometer at wavelength 594 nm. The data, as depicted in FIG. 8 10, showed that a significant amount of sialic acid was produced by VLP-containing fractions of the sucrose gradients and that these fractions corresponded to those fractions exhibiting hemagglutination activity.